

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 /057 W

-----091101 050130Z /45

R 031345Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1468

INFO DSAA WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:MASS

SUBJECT:FMS BILLINGS

REF: STATE 159708

1. AMBASSADOR HAS JUST RECEIVED PACKET OF UNDATED MATERIAL FROM SECURITY ASSISTANCE ACCOUNTING CENTER (SAAC) WITH REQUEST THAT WE TRANSMIT AN ENCLOSED LETTER AND CURRENT CALENDAR QUARTER'S FMS BILLING STATEMENTS (DD FORM 645) TO HOST GOVERNMENT. FORMS AGAIN SHOW NOTHING DUE IN COLUMN 14, AMOUNTS DUE AND PAYABLE.

2. AT RISK OF SEEMING DIFFICULT, AND FULLY APPRECIATING SAAC'S EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL, I AM MOST RELUCTANT TO DO SO. QUITE APART FROM DEPARTMENT'S ASSURANCE THAT LETTER WILL BE EASY TO TRANSLATE, WHICH IS NOT CASE AT ALL (NOT TO MENTION TRANSLATION OF FORM 645 ITSELF), WASHINGTON AGENCIES SHOULD BY NOW BE FULLY CONVERSANT WITH ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES HERE OF SIMPLY MEETING FMS CREDIT PAYMENTS ON TIME. I CAN FORESEE NO WAY THAT LETTER AND FORMS RE FMS SALES PROGRAM WILL NOT ADD TO AND COMPOUND CONFUSION WITHIN GOG, PARTICULARLY DATA WHICH SHOWS NOTHING DUE WHEN IN FACT WE HAVE HAD TO HAMMER AWAY FOR MONTHS TELLING THEM THAT PAYMENTS ARE DUE. THAT THESE FORMS DO NOT REFER TO GOG'S FMS CREDIT FINANCING DEBT TO USG WILL SIMPLY GET LOST IN

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TRANSLATION, EVEN IF WE COULD SOMEHOW EXPLAIN IT ALL PROPERLY TO THEM.

3. IF THESE FORMS ARE NOT DESIGNED TO INDICATE MONIES DUE TO USG FROM GOG, THEN I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THEY BE SENT ONLY TO GABONESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WHERE THERE IS AT LEAST SOME ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCY, AND WHERE GABONESE CAN OBTAIN

EXPLANATIONS DIRECTLY FROM DOD EXPERTS. IF THEY ARE DESIGNED TO SHOW AMOUNTS DUE PER PARA 6 REFTTEL, I CAN PERCEIVE NO WAY WILL GET MESSAGE ACROSS TO GOG THAT THEY SHOULD INSTRUCT AMBASSADOR MAMBOUKA TO MAKE REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF FUNDS FROM FY 77 CREDIT FOR AMOUNT DUE, SHORT OF SITTING DOWN WITH MAMBOUKA HIMSELF AND LETTING HIM ASK HIS OWN GOVERNMENT. GABONESE MAY DO SO SIMPLY BECAUSE WE TELL THEM TO, BUT THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO UNDERSTAND WHY.

4. WHAT IS NEEDED AT THIS POST RIGHT NOW IS BILLING NOTICE FOR PAYMENT DUE ON 771 G LATE THIS MONTH THAT WE CAN TRANSMIT TO CAISSE AUTONOME D'AMORTISSEMENT AND TELL THEM THAT IS WHAT THEY OWE AND WHEN THEY OWE IT. ANYTHING ELSE WILL CONFUSE (THEM AND PROBABLY US AS WELL). IF IT IS NECESSARY TO TRANSMIT SAAC'S LETTER AND FORMS 645, WE WILL RELUCTANTLY DO SO, BUT IT WILL TAKE US CONSIDERABLE TIME TO TRANSLATE, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT WILL HAVE TO BE DONE BY AN FSL TOTALLY UNFAMILIAR WITH TERMINOLOGY. TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Line Count: 95
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SAS ID: 1549689
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FMS BILLINGS
TAGS: MASS, GB
To: STATE
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